3. (As filed) The method according to claim 2, wherein prior to analysis, the locus at which the or each allele is situated is amplified.

4. (As filed) The method according to claim 3, wherein the amplification is by the PCR.

5. (Amended) The method according to [any one of] claim[s] 1 [to 4], wherein the locus at which the or each allele is situated comprises microsatellite repeats of variable length.

6. (Amended) The method according to claim 3 [or claim 4], wherein the amplification is performed using a pair of primers for each allele, wherein each primer in a pair hybridizes under suitably stringent conditions to a region either side of the microsatellite repeats.

7. (Amended) The method according to [any one of] claim[s] 1 [to 6], wherein the allele for identification is D4S3032*5.

8. (Amended) The method according to [any one of] claim[s] 1 [to 6], wherein the allele for identification is D4S2921*13.

9. (Amended) The method according to [any one of] claim[s] 1 [to 6], wherein the alleles for identification are D4S3032*5 and D4S2921*13.

10. (Amended) The method according to [any one of] claim[s] 3 [to 9], wherein the analysis is carried out by size separation of amplification products.

11. (As filed) The method according to claim 10, wherein the primers in the pair of primers comprise the oligonucleotide sequences identified by SEQ ID NO: 1 and SEQ ID NO: 2 or substantially similar sequences, for D4S3032*5; or identified by SEQ ID NO: 3 and SEQ ID NO: 4 or substantially similar sequences, for D4S2921*13; or both of the aforementioned pairs of primers for both of the aforementioned alleles.

12. (As filed) A pair of oligonucleotide primers for amplification of an allele which is associated with asthma, which allele is situated at a locus in a region of chromosome 2 of up to 1 megabase in length, which region contains the locus D4S3032 and/or D4S2921.